

Amendments to the Abstract

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A method for reducing a number of bits representing an encoded communication signal is disclosed. By this method, including classifying frames of an encoded signal are classified according to at least one characterization criterion selected from among a plurality of predetermined characterization criteria, and selecting a representation signal is selected for each of the frames, wherein the total number of bits comprised in the selected representation signals is less than the number of bits comprised in the encoded communication signal.